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DE RUEHZP #0584 2042117
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3611
INFO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PANAMA 000584

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

PASS TO USITC-LYN M.SCHLITT

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ECON](#) [OTRA](#) [PM](#)
SUBJECT: PANAMA DATA FOR U.S. BIENNIAL CARIBBEAN BASIN
INVESTMENT SURVEY

REF: STATE 60543

11. (U) This cable is in response to reftel.

12. (SBU) Post obtained from the Ministry of Commerce and Industries a list of every Panamanian business that exported under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA) as amended by the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA). All 145 businesses were called by phone and we emailed all businesses from which we were able to obtain email addresses. We received data from only six businesses. The data are in the following format:

1A. NAME OF COMPANY
1B. INVESTMENT AMOUNT
1C. IS THIS A NEW INVESTMENT OR EXPANSION INVESTMENT
1D. TYPE OF PRODUCT TO BE EXPORTED
1E. ESTIMATED VALUE OF EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES
1F. WOULD PROJECT HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED TN THE ABSENCE OF CBERA/CBTPA

1) VERBA ODREC S.A. B. \$500,000 C. EXPANSION INVESTMENT D. PINEAPPLES E. \$500,000 F. YES

2) HACIENDA LOMA LINDA S.A. B. NO ANSWER C. EXPANSION INVESTMENT D. ORCHIDS CUT FLOWERS E. \$125,000 F. NO

3) AZUCARERA NACIONAL S.A. B. \$9,862,000 C. EXPANSION INVESTMENT D. RAW CANE SUGAR ON BULK E. \$3,518,000 F. YES

4) VIDRIOS PANAMENOS B. \$13,753,177 C. EXPANSION INVESTMENT
1D. GLASS PRODUCTS E. 4,4000,000 F. NO ANSWER

5) CENTRAL AZUCARERO DE ALANJE S.A. B. \$1,264,977 C. EXPANSION INVESTMENT D. RAW CANE SUGAR ON BULK E.\$4,000,000
1F. NO ANSWER

6) FARALLON AQUACULTURE S.A. B. \$1,616,584 C. EXPANSION INVESTMENT D. SHRIMP E) \$4,671 F. NO ANSWER

13. (SBU) The GOP strongly believes that the CBERA promotes Panamanian exports to the United States and promotes job creation in Panama. However, there is a lack of hard data for any broad conclusions; the data above are too limited to make statistical inferences. However, the self-reported estimated value of exports to the United States for just these six companies, over twelve million dollars, is a substantial percentage of the \$377 million in Panamanian exports to the United States in 2008.
GILMOUR